

## LEE COUNTY LIBRARY

The Lee County Library utilizes three buildings: the main library on Steele Street and two small branches; one on Wall Street and one in Broadway. The main library contains 4,000 square feet of floor space divided between the upper and lower story. The Lee County Library is governed by a Board of Trustees appointed by the Board of County Commissioners. The Board of Trustees makes library policy subject to budgetary approval by the Board of County Commissioners. The library is financed with Federal, State, County, and Municipal and private funds. The contributions in 1961-1962 were as follows:

Lee County-----	\$ 8,600
City of Sanford-----	3,000
State Aid-----	4,100
Federal Aid-----	800
Other-----	<u>\$ 1,200</u>
	<u>\$17,700</u>

The revenue from Lee County and Sanford is non-tax revenues. In order to start using tax revenues, a special tax election must be held. The special tax rate may not, by statute, exceed 15¢ per \$100 valuation. (At present valuations, this would put a limit of about \$90,000 on revenue from such special tax in Lee County.)

The Lee County Library is inadequate in several ways, if some minimum standards suggested by the North Carolina Library Association are applied:

1. The library's 26,000 books are only about one-fourth the minimum number (100,000) that should be available to library users.
2. The 2,600 new books ordered by the library each year are about one-half the number recommended (5,000).
3. The 4,000 square feet of floor space in the main library is 9,000 square feet below the standard for counties with the population of Lee County.

The upper floor of the main library building was opened to library uses in 1963 to handle increased space demands. This floor had been closed previously because of its floor, which conducts noise downstairs, and because it requires extra staff effort to supervise. These problems remain. The expanded service of larger quarters makes the present staff load out of proportion to desired standards. At the present rates of growth, the existing quarters will be outgrown in three to four years.